Modeling Software with Finite State Machines: A Practical Approach explains how to apply finite state machines to software development. It provides a critical analysis of using finite state machines as a foundation for executable specifications to reduce software development effort and improve quality. This book discusses the design of a state machine and of a system of state machines. It also presents a detailed analysis of development issues relating to behavior modeling with design examples and design rules for using finite state machines.

This volume describes a coherent and well-tested framework for generating reliable software for even the most complex tasks. The authors demonstrate that the established practice of using a specification as a basis for coding is wrong. Divided into three parts, this book opens by delivering the authors expert opinions on software, covering the evolution of development as well as costs, methods, programmers, and the development cycle. The remaining two parts encourage the use of state machines: promoting the virtual finite state machine (Vfsm) method and the StateWORKS development tools.

Features:
* Used Book in Good Condition

My Personal Review:
As others have added, the first 1/3 of this book is a very opinionated editorial on the software industry, the middle 1/3 a pretty good presentation of state machines, and the final 1/3 simply a sales pitch for Stateworks.
My biggest disappointment is that there is little in the way of code examples demonstrating their principles in this book. Obviously, they would rather you buy Stateworks instead.

Stateworks - I think you'd be crazy to stick a proprietary black box bunch of code into a major project, but that's just me. No idea what the license costs, but the price of this book as the the main sales literature isn't cheap.

Suggest checking out the SMC compiler at: smc dot sourceforge dot net. This open source code combined with some of the general design principles found in this book set me on my way. If you can't afford the book, you'll probably do pretty well with just the SMC material.

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Modeling Software with Finite State Machines: A Practical Approach by Peter Wolstenholme - 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!